

TOP SECRET

20 March 1964

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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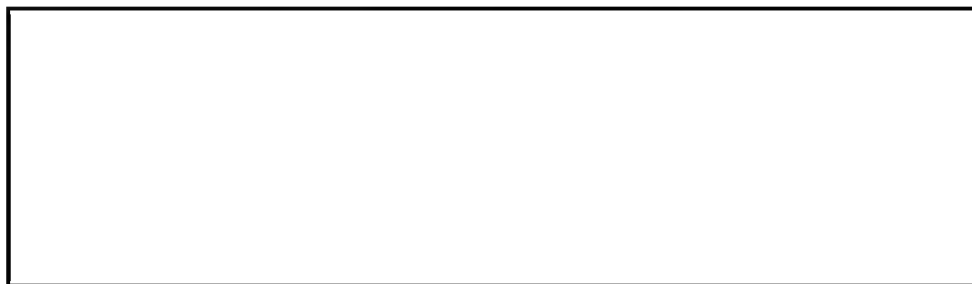
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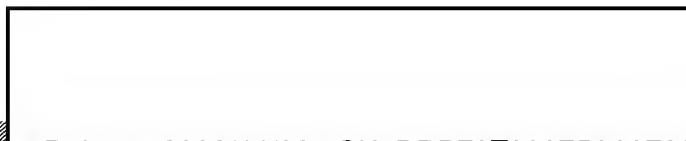
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Cambodia: The South Vietnamese attack on a Cambodian village yesterday probably ends chances for any early accommodation between Phnom Penh and Saigon.

The attack, which took place in an operation against the Viet Cong, included air strikes and the deployment of armored units in Cambodian territory 40 miles west of Saigon. It apparently inflicted numerous civilian casualties. The International Control Commission is conducting an investigation at Cambodia's request.

A South Vietnamese delegation arrived in Phnom Penh yesterday to discuss border issues following Sihanouk's statement that Hanoi's attitude on the border question was "unclear." Sihanouk will take a hard line in these discussions if he permits them to proceed.

Press reports that a US pilot was in a South Vietnamese observation plane downed during the attack probably will cause Sihanouk to renew charges of US complicity in border violations.

The incident comes at a time when Sihanouk has been renewing feelers for a large international conference to guarantee Cambodia's borders. He had said on 17 March that he was encouraged by the prospects for an international conference. A similar South Vietnamese attack on a Cambodian village last month was used by Sihanouk to stress the need for international guarantees of Cambodia's borders.

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DAILY BRIEF

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Panama: Resurgent bitterness toward the US may be given additional impetus by a Communist-led student congress opening in Panama City today.

For nearly a year Communists have been actively promoting attendance at this congress of Panamanian students. These elements can be expected to use the gathering as a vehicle to arouse nationwide anti-US feelings. A general resurgence of nationalism already is reuniting the people behind the Chiari government and probably will result in an over-all strengthening of Communist influence.

Confusion and disappointment over the stalemate in OAS negotiations appear to be general in Panama.

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The Communist-guided Panamanian Students' Federation has published the text of a telegram it sent to OAS Ambassador Miguel Moreno attacking the OAS and urging that Panama take its case to the UN. The message was signed by Victor Avila, an effective Communist student leader and a candidate for the national legislature in the May elections.

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